

really see what is going on in schools like Lincoln, and some of the other schools in your communities around the state and around this country, I think it would be fitting and proper that you give very sincere thought to your decisions on funding programs like the alcoholism program in this state. I see it happening, gentlemen, with young people. I firmly have believed that we have got to pay attention to our youngsters. If we don't we cannot hope to have the great, strong foundation that we have as American citizens in this great country. I'm proud to be an American, and I'm proud to be associated with men and women like yourselves. I say again, if you give that some thought I know those youngsters would appreciate it very much. Again, to the Lieutenant Governor and to all you ladies and gentlemen, thank you very much for your kindness. I'm going to sit here as long as the Lieutenant Governor will have me, then we'll have to go about our way and do some more business in your school system here. Thanks again for your kindness and your reception. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Do you have another amendment?

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment is offered by Senator Labedz of the Fifth Legislative District. (Read amendment found on page 1747 of the Journal).

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you Mr. President. Members of the Legislature. The intent of my amendment is to obtain longevity pay for the Conservation Officers of the Game and Parks Commission. I believe that the Conservation Officers should be granted the longevity pay if such pay is to be granted to the State Patrol Officers. The Conservation Officers have the status of peace officers, and make arrests for violation of state laws and regulations of the Games and Parks Commission. Many of the people who Conservation Officers contact are carrying firearms, or have firearms close at hand. In addition, the Conservation Officers are called upon to assist other law enforcement officers in emergency situations. For the reasons that I have just given you, the Conservation Officers position in the State Patrol Trooper position are in the same pay grade and work the same number of hours per week. I believe the longevity pay should be granted to the Conservation Officers if it is to be granted to the State Patrol Troopers. The increase would be \$29,144 and \$26,150 of that comes out of the Game Fund, only \$2,944 out of the General Fund. I move for the adoption of my amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, am I the only light? I'd like to speak in favor of Senator Bernice Labedz's amendment. I think that what we did the other day, and I watched this body stand and hold that Patrol longevity pay in there, and I heard Senator Schmit so eloquently say that there was a great need to provide law enforcement personnel and uniformed officers with longevity pay and additional benefits. I concur that additional benefits are needed, not just in this area but in others. I would encourage, while we do not have the money this year to hit each and every one of these programs and provide this longevity pay where it is needed, and that is to all state employees, I would encourage you to accept this amendment. It is consistent with